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Grade 3 Achievement Test

Language Learning Part B: Reading

June 1993



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GRADE 3 ACHIEVEMENT TEST

LANGUAGE LEARNING

Part B: Reading

To the Teacher

This test reflects some significant administrative changes. Please read the *Achievement Testing Program Teacher's Manual, June 1993 Administration* (Grade 3 section) **BEFORE** giving this test.

Instructions to Students

- This test asks you to read and to answer questions about what you have read.
- Read each selection carefully.
- Read each question carefully. You may read each selection again to help you answer any of the questions.
- Read ALL FOUR choices for each question. Choose the CORRECT or BEST answer. Use your pencil to fill in the circle in front of your answer.
- Mark only ONE ANSWER for each question. Do not spend a lot of time on any one question. You will have time to come back to it later.
- If you want to change an answer, erase your first mark COMPLETELY.

NOW ANSWER THIS EXAMPLE QUESTION:

Rex is a big dinosaur. He is taller than a giraffe. As a matter of fact, Rex is as tall as a house!

1. Rex is a

- ☐ pet
- ☐ bird
- ☐ giraffe
- ☐ dinosaur

The CORRECT ANSWER is "dinosaur."

YOU HAVE 50 MINUTES TO COMPLETE THIS TEST.

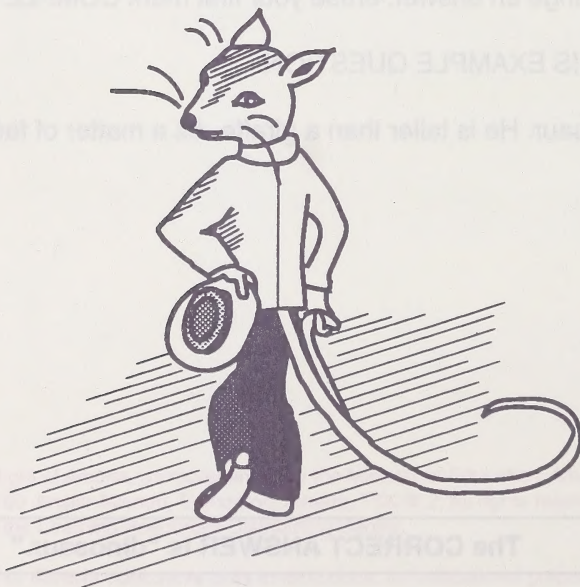
I. Read the following story and answer questions 1 to 5.

STUART LITTLE

Because he was so small, Stuart was often hard to find around the house. His father and his mother and his brother George seldom could locate him by looking for him—usually they had to call him; and the house often echoed with cries of “Stuart! Stooo-art!” You would come into a room, and he might be curled up in a chair, but you wouldn’t see him. Mr. Little was in constant fear of losing him and never finding him again. He even made him a tiny red cap, such as hunters wear, so that he would be easier to see.

One day when he was seven years old, Stuart was in the kitchen watching his mother make tapioca pudding. He was feeling hungry, and when Mrs. Little opened the door of the refrigerator to get something, Stuart slipped inside to see if he could find a piece of cheese. He supposed, of course, his mother had seen him, and when the door swung shut and he realized he was locked in, it surprised him greatly.

E.B. White



1. What is the meaning of the underlined word seldom?

- ☐ Many times
- ☐ Often
- ☐ Never
- ☐ Hardly ever

2. Mr. Little was afraid of losing Stuart because Stuart was

- ☐ only seven
- ☐ so small
- ☐ locked in the refrigerator
- ☐ looking for cheese

3. Mr. Little made a small red cap for Stuart because it would

- ☐ be his favourite colour
- ☐ make him feel like a hunter
- ☐ be easier to see him
- ☐ keep his head warm

4. The refrigerator door was open because Mrs. Little

- ☐ needed something in the refrigerator
- ☐ was looking for Stuart
- ☐ was feeling hungry
- ☐ forgot to close it

5. Stuart was surprised to find himself locked in the refrigerator because he

- ☐ thought his mother had seen him
- ☐ was worried about freezing
- ☐ knew his family would look for him
- ☐ found lots of good cheese

II. Read the following recipe and answer questions 6 to 8.

YOGURT POPSICLES

Makes 30

You will need:

large mixing bowl
metric measures
wooden spoon
small paper cups
popsicle sticks
freezer

Ingredients:

850 mL plain yogurt
355 mL frozen orange juice
concentrate, thawed
75 mL liquid honey
15 mL vanilla

Step 1. Mix the yogurt, orange juice, honey, and vanilla in the large mixing bowl.

Step 2. Spoon the mixture into the paper cups. Fill the paper cups half full.

Step 3. Put the half-full cups into the freezer.

Step 4. When the mixture is almost frozen, insert a popsicle stick into each cup.

Step 5. When the mixture is frozen, peel off the paper and eat the popsicles.

6. In yogurt popsicles, the MAIN ingredients are

- ☐ orange juice and a large mixing bowl
- ☐ yogurt and a freezer
- ☐ yogurt and orange juice
- ☐ popsicle sticks and paper cups

7. The sticks are placed in the mixture when it is almost frozen so that the

- ☐ sticks will not break
- ☐ sticks will stay in place
- ☐ mixture freezes better
- ☐ mixture will not separate

8. How many people will this recipe serve?

- ☐ Thirty
- ☐ Twenty
- ☐ Thirteen
- ☐ Ten



III. Read the following article and answer questions 9 to 12.

This story is about the California Angels' former pitcher Jim Abbott.

JIM ABBOTT'S SPECIAL DELIVERY

California Angels pitcher Jim Abbott toed the pitching rubber. The Milwaukee Brewers had the bases loaded.

Abbott turned to throw, lifting his right leg toward home plate. With both arms over his head, the rookie brought his left arm forward and delivered a fast ball.

"Strike three!" shouted the umpire. Abbott had gotten out of a tough situation without allowing a run.

Abbott went on to strike out nine batters, and the Angels won the game 5-0. It was Abbott's twelfth win of the 1989 season.

That record would be remarkable for any player. But Jim Abbott has a challenge unlike any other professional baseball player. He was born without a right hand, so he must catch the ball and throw it with the same hand.

This is very difficult to do quickly, but Jim has been doing it since he was a little boy. He is not surprised by his own success. "I never expected to do poorly just because I have only one hand," he says. "I want to be known as a good baseball pitcher, not just as a good one-handed baseball pitcher."

Michael J. Klodnicki

9. Jim Abbott is a good baseball pitcher. He is an unusual player because he

- ☐ has become known as a good athlete
- ☐ had twelve wins in one season
- ☐ was born with only one hand
- ☐ struck out nine batters in a game

10. Baseball is a challenge for Jim Abbott because he has to

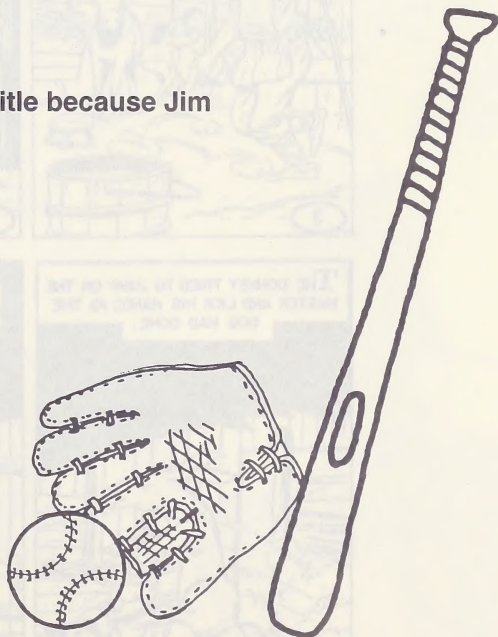
- ☐ play with only one hand
- ☐ strike out the Milwaukee Brewers
- ☐ win twelve baseball games
- ☐ lift his right leg toward home plate

11. MOST of all, Jim Abbott wanted to

- ☐ win the 1989 baseball season
- ☐ strike out all nine batters
- ☐ pitch with his right arm
- ☐ be known as a good baseball pitcher

12. "Jim Abbott's Special Delivery" is a good title because Jim

- ☐ strikes out many batters
- ☐ uses special baseball equipment
- ☐ pitches differently
- ☐ catches and throws with the same hand



IV. Read the following cartoon and answer questions 13 to 17.

AESOP'S FABLES

The Donkey and the Little Dog

A MAN ONCE HAD A DONKEY THAT HE TREATED VERY WELL. BUT THE DONKEY WAS NEVER SATISFIED.

I WISH I DIDN'T HAVE TO WORK SO HARD.



WHILE I TOIL IN THE FIELDS ALL DAY, YOU DO NOTHING BUT SIT IN THE MASTER'S LAP.

YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY THAT THE MASTER TREATS YOU SO KINDLY. STOP COMPLAINING.



JUST THEN, THE MASTER CAME INTO THE STABLE.



HE SAT DOWN TO LET THE DOG JUMP ONTO HIS LAP.



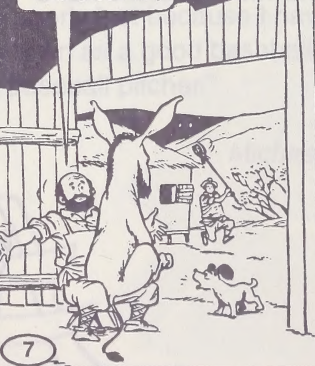
IT MADE THE DONKEY ANGRY TO SEE THE DOG DO THINGS THAT HE HAD NEVER BEEN ALLOWED TO DO. SO...



THE DONKEY TRIED TO JUMP ON THE MASTER AND LICK HIS HANDS AS THE DOG HAD DONE.



HELP! HELP! THIS DONKEY WILL CRUSH ME!



SO A SERVANT CAME RUNNING TO DRIVE THE DONKEY OFF.



THE END

13. The donkey complained to the dog because the donkey

- ☐ thought the master liked the dog better
- ☐ thought the master was mean to him
- ☐ felt the dog was smarter than he was
- ☐ knew the dog listened to him

14. The picture that BEST shows that the donkey is satisfied is

- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 6

15. When the donkey jumped onto his lap, the master PROBABLY felt

- ☐ sad
- ☐ happy
- ☐ afraid
- ☐ loving

16. The author of this story is

- ☐ the donkey
- ☐ the dog
- ☐ fables
- ☐ Aesop

17. What lesson does this story teach us?

- ☐ Be satisfied with the way you are.
- ☐ Be sure to look before you leap.
- ☐ The biggest dog was once a puppy.
- ☐ Donkeys and dogs can be friends.

V. Read the following story and answer questions 18 to 21.

THE BALD KNIGHT

There once was a Knight who, as he grew old, lost all his hair. His head became as bald as a duck's egg. He didn't want everyone to see how bald he was, so he had a wig made—a fine white wig with long curling tresses.

The very first day he put it on, he went hunting with a company of lords and ladies. Away they went over the green fields and through the forest, with the hounds racing on ahead, and a gay blowing of horns. The Knight was proud of his new wig, as he cantered along on his black horse.

"How handsome they must think I am!" he said to himself.

Presently the hounds lost the scent, and most of the company gathered together under a grove of oak trees till they could pick it up once more. The Knight rode up to join them. Then a dreadful thing happened. He passed under a tree, and as he did so, his wig was caught on a branch and pulled off his head in full view of everyone. How they laughed, and how foolish the poor Knight looked, after thinking himself so handsome! There he sat on his black horse, while the fine curly wig hung above his head on the oak branch.

The Knight could not help seeing the fun, so he laughed as merrily as anyone else.

"Why," he said, almost rolling off his horse with amusement, "how could I expect a wig to stay on my head, when my own hair wouldn't!"

J. Reeves

18. The Knight hunted with

- ☐ people of the village
- ☐ his own family
- ☐ lords and ladies
- ☐ a king and a queen

19. The BEST meaning for the underlined word cantered is

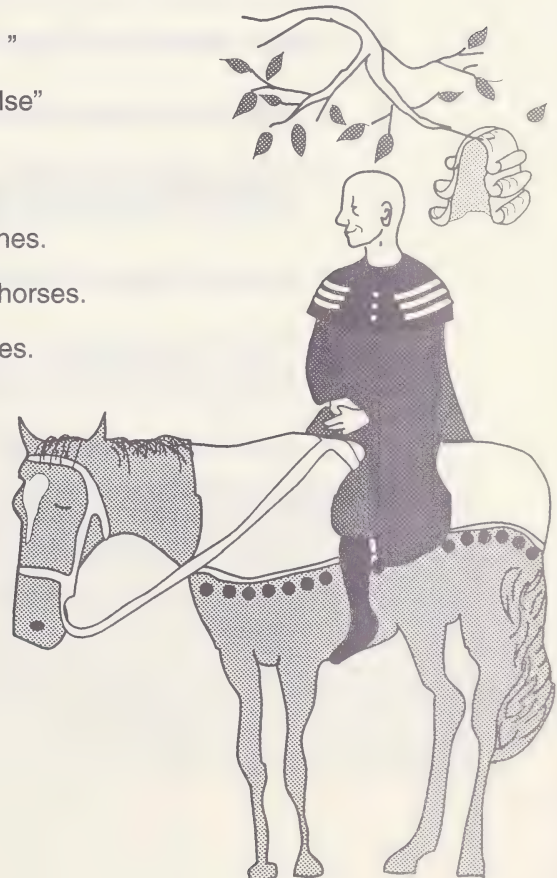
- ☐ rode
- ☐ laughed
- ☐ blowing horns
- ☐ racing ahead

20. What words BEST show that the Knight had a sense of humour?

- ☐ "His head became as bald as a duck's egg"
- ☐ "The Knight was proud of his new wig"
- ☐ " 'How handsome they must think I am' "
- ☐ "So he laughed as merrily as anyone else"

21. What is the message of this story?

- ☐ It is dangerous to ride under low branches.
- ☐ People who wear wigs should not ride horses.
- ☐ We need to be able to laugh at ourselves.
- ☐ Be careful when you are hunting.



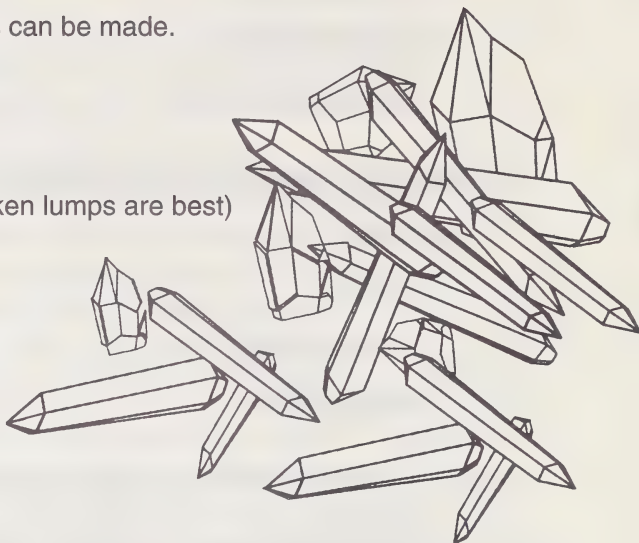
VI. Read the following experiment and answer questions 22 to 26.

DR. ZED'S CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN

This experiment shows how crystals can be made.

What You Will Need:

several pieces of charcoal (broken lumps are best)
glass bowl
measuring cup
spoon
food colouring
salt
250 mL hot tap water
60 mL vinegar



How to Make Your Crystal Mountain

1. Place the charcoal lumps in a bowl.
2. Slowly add salt to 250 mL of hot tap water until no more salt will dissolve. Remember to stir.
3. Add the vinegar to the salt solution.
4. Pour the salt solution over the charcoal. If the charcoal floats, drain off some solution.
5. Pour the food colouring on top of the charcoal.
6. Put the bowl in a warm corner. After a few weeks, you'll have a multicolour crystal mountain.

Gordon Penrose

22. Before you start the experiment, the charcoal should be

- ☐ dissolved
- ☐ heated
- ☐ shaken
- ☐ broken

23. Hot water is used in this experiment because

- ☐ salt mixes better in hot water
- ☐ vinegar mixes well in hot water
- ☐ hot water dissolves the charcoal lump
- ☐ hot water cleans the mixing bowl

24. If the charcoal floats in the salt solution,

- ☐ break the charcoal lumps
- ☐ add vinegar to the solution
- ☐ drain off some solution
- ☐ pour food colouring on top of the charcoal

25. Food colouring is used in this experiment so that the crystals

- ☐ dissolve easily
- ☐ are different colours
- ☐ float higher
- ☐ are larger

26. People would MOST LIKELY make their own crystal mountains because

- ☐ it is fun to watch them in the dark
- ☐ crystals are pretty and interesting
- ☐ it is good to eat them
- ☐ crystals are quick and easy to grow

VII. Read the following story and answer questions 27 to 31.

THE BIG POISON HUNT

Peering and sniffing, Ollie scrambled past the tiny pools and waterfalls where Rick often hunted crayfish. At last he reached the place where the woods ended and Bigfarm Meadow began.

This was the beginning of Clear Creek. Here the stream was fed by springs in the meadow. The stream was narrow and overgrown with low bushes. Ollie had to crawl on his belly along the muddy streambed. But what kind of mud was this? Black smelly goo!

Ollie sniffed his paw. Oil! He looked around. Plastic jugs leaking dirty oil were scattered all about. Ollie had a job to do—find out whether there were more jugs around. He had to work fast!

Right that minute, not far away, Mollie Muskrat was doing her job. She was questioning her cousin, Martha, who lived nearby.

Martha was saying, "Maybe the poison comes from those smelly jugs two big boys have been dumping in the bushes along Clear Creek. I first saw them one night last week. They drove down the farm road with their car lights out. I hoped they might be dumping something good to eat. But one sniff told me it was nothing I wanted to eat!"

Sara Bulette



27. The CLOSEST meaning to the underlined words peering and sniffing is

- ☐ seeing and feeling
- ☐ looking and smelling
- ☐ looking and touching
- ☐ seeing and hearing

28. Most of this story takes place

- ☐ at the waterfall
- ☐ by a farm
- ☐ at a stream
- ☐ in the woods

29. Ollie is not a person because he

- ☐ crawls on his belly
- ☐ sniffs his paw
- ☐ lives in a meadow
- ☐ hunts crayfish

30. The animals are PROBABLY worried because

- ☐ the stream is narrow and overgrown
- ☐ there is not much food to eat
- ☐ there are two big boys nearby
- ☐ the stream is becoming polluted

31. The “big poison” is

- ☐ smelly fish
- ☐ rotting food
- ☐ dirty oil
- ☐ black mud

VIII. Read the following poem and answer questions 32 to 36.

BUBBLE GUM

I suck it till it's really soft,
Then chew it kind of slow,
And then I stretch it with my tongue
And blow and blow and blow.

The bubble grows until it meets
My eyebrow and my chin.
Then suddenly it goes Kerplop!
And now the fun begins.

There's gum up my nose
And gum on my clothes
And gum on the back of my neck.
There's gum everywhere—
In my ears and my hair!
I'm a pink, sticky, sweet, total wreck.

It won't come off although I scrub
And scrape until I'm numb.
I sure wish someone would invent
A no-stick bubble gum.

Mary Blakeslee



32. The underlined word Kerplop is printed in a different way to help you

- ☐ read the word
- ☐ find the line
- ☐ feel the gum
- ☐ hear the sound

33. The poet is a “total wreck” because the gum is

- ☐ stuck all over
- ☐ soft and wet
- ☐ sticky sweet
- ☐ stretched and pink

34. The BEST meaning of the underlined word numb is

- ☐ very dry
- ☐ very sleepy
- ☐ no feeling
- ☐ no sound

35. The poet wishes that

- ☐ bubble gum would last longer
- ☐ there was a no-stick bubble gum
- ☐ gum was not so soft
- ☐ there was a gum that would stretch

36. The poet PROBABLY wrote this poem to

- ☐ warn children not to blow big bubbles
- ☐ make a commercial for bubble gum
- ☐ make fun of what happens when a bubble breaks
- ☐ explain how to get gum out of your hair

IX. Read the following catalogue card and answer questions 37 to 40.

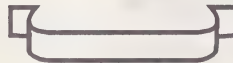
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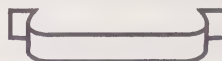
Cleary, Beverly
Ramona Quimby, Age 8

ill. by Alan Tiegreen
Morrow, 1981; 190 p.
The further adventures of the Quimby
family as Ramona enters the third grade.
ISBN 0-688-00478-4

AUTHORS
A to F



AUTHORS
G to J



37. How many pages does the book listed on this catalogue card have?

- ☐ 688
- ☐ 478
- ☐ 1981
- ☐ 190

38. Beverly Cleary is the

- ☐ author
- ☐ illustrator
- ☐ publisher
- ☐ librarian

39. "Fic" on the catalogue card means

- ☐ fairy tales
- ☐ fiction
- ☐ facts
- ☐ fantasy

40. A catalogue card is used to find

- ☐ things in a catalogue
- ☐ information about a certain book
- ☐ a lost book
- ☐ the number of books in a library

THE END

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